United Nations E/ICEF/2002/P/L.10/Add.1

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
9 July 2002

Original: English

For action

United Nations Children's Fund
Executive Board
Second regular session 2002
16-20 September 2002
Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

Multi-country programme recommendation**

Pacific island countries***

Addendum

Summary

The present addendum to the country note submitted to the Executive Board at its first regular session of 2002 contains the final country programme recommendation for Board approval.

The Executive Director *recommends* that the Executive Board approve the recommendation for a multi-country programme for 14 Pacific island countries (Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tongo, Tuvalu and Vanuatu) for the period 2003 to 2007 in the amount of $10,000,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and $12,000,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions.

* E/ICEF/2002/11.

** The original country note provided only indicative figures for estimated programme cooperation. The figures provided in the present addendum are final and take into account unspent balances of programme cooperation at the end of 2001. They will be contained in the summary of recommendations for regular resources and other resources programmes for 2002 (E/ICEF/2002/P/L.36).

*** Document submission was delayed pending receipt of final data.

02-46825 (E) 070802

Contents

		Page
	The situation of children and women	3
	Programme cooperation, 1997-2002*	3
	Recommended programme cooperation, 2003-2007	7
List of tables		
1.	Expenditure under previous cooperation period, 1997-2002	16
2.	Planned yearly expenditures	17
3.	Linkage of programme budget and staffing/staff costs	18

* In 2001, a one-year recommendation for funding for a short-duration programme for Pacific island countries for 2002 (E/ICEF/2001/P/L.65) was approved as a continuation of the previous multi-country programme covering 1997-2001 (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.30/Add.1), leading to the preparation of the present full-length multi-country programme.

The situation of children and women

1. The Pacific island countries are home to some 2 million people, of whom just over 900,000 are children. Some 400,000 of the children live in the five countries (Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu) classified as least developed countries (LDCs). The situation of children and women remains essentially the same as described in the country note submitted to the first regular session of the Executive Board in 2002 (E/ICEF/2002/P/L.10).

Programme cooperation, 1997-2002[1]

2. Political disturbances in Fiji and Solomon Islands caused delays in programme development, resulting in the United Nations agencies jointly amending their programming cycles to include 2002. The 1997-2001 and 2002 UNICEF programmes of cooperation aimed to help realize the rights of children in 13 Pacific island countries by promoting and monitoring the Convention on the Rights of the Child and helping to reach and sustain the World Summit for Children goals and the Pacific Goals for Children. The combined 1997-2001 and 2002 programmes were designed to improve the coverage, delivery and capacity of health and nutrition services, early childhood education, and child and youth advocacy and protection. It was agreed at the 1999 mid-term review (MTR) to replace nine country-level programmes with one integrated area-based programme, with projects to support individual country needs.

3. The previous programme brought about many positive changes for Pacific children. National Coordinating Committees for Children (NCCCs) were strengthened and have taken a lead role in giving more emphasis to children's issues in national development plans. Through the leadership and initiative of these Committees, national legislation has been reviewed, country-level situation analyses have been prepared, and advocacy and training on children's rights have been carried out in all Pacific island countries. More recently, NCCCs have initiated reviews, leading to new initiatives for child justice and assistance for children with disabilities.

4. During the programme cycle, analyses of the situations of children and women were completed in five countries, and four others are in the final stages of preparation. A Pacific regional situation analysis has also been drafted in preparation for the next programme period. Specific studies and evaluations were undertaken to contribute to understanding the situation of children in the areas of nutrition, youth, child feeding and early childhood development (ECD), and to assess progress in meeting selected targets for disabled children, hepatitis B immunization and vitamin A supplementation.

5. Children across the Pacific have received increased media attention. The training of journalists, exposure to international best practices and support for local productions have helped to mobilize national broadcasters and non-governmental organization (NGO) partners, both to highlight children's issues and to involve

[1] The multi-country programme for 1997-2001 and 2002 covered 13 Pacific island countries. The same countries are included in the present recommendation for 2003-2007, in addition to Nauru, which has recently been included in the UNICEF programme of cooperation.

children themselves as press and broadcast journalists, public speakers and television producers. Through successful cooperation with the Pacific International Broadcasting Association (PIBA), the Children's Day of Broadcasting is now widely celebrated throughout the Pacific, and in many countries children have been included on production teams. Fiji held its first-ever Youth Parliament, and children in Solomon Islands used a travelling child drama group to carry peace messages around the country. In two countries, NGO partners received video production equipment and training to enable them to bring local language programmes with positive social messages to parents and communities.

6. In coordination with the World Health Organization (WHO), substantive progress was made in most countries in improving immunization rates and in successfully incorporating hepatitis B vaccine into all immunization programmes. Over 200,000 children have benefited. With support from Australia, New Zealand and Japan, UNICEF helps to supply vaccines through the Vaccine Independence Initiative, conducts cold-chain assessments, procures supplies and equipment, and trains health staff. In Chuuk, a state in Federated States of Micronesia with particularly low coverage, UNICEF has provided full-time consultancy support to assist in extending immunization services to the outer islands.

7. Micronutrient studies in Yap and Kosrae states of Federated States of Micronesia have prompted state officials to add vitamin A supplementation to their regular immunization programmes. This had already been done in other states of the country, as well as in the Marshall Islands and Kiribati. Vitamin A capsules are provided through the Micronutrient Initiative. UNICEF supports training, monitoring and promotional activities. However, in all countries, systems to monitor coverage and identify those children being missed out need strengthening. Progress has been made in addressing the iron deficiency anaemia problem in Pacific island countries. UNICEF has supported the main flour mill in Fiji to fortify flour with iron, zinc, folic acid and vitamins B-1 and B-12 to reduce deficiencies in these micronutrients not only in Fiji, but also in other Pacific island countries as well.

8. The Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) has been introduced in all Pacific island countries, resulting in documented improvements in breastfeeding rates. Communication and training materials have been developed to help extend the programme beyond the hospitals. A total of 14 hospital assessments were conducted, resulting in three hospitals accredited as "baby-friendly" and two more awarded Certificates of Commitment. Two countries have undertaken household and community studies on breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices. This project, carried out in cooperation with Johns Hopkins University (United States), uses formative, qualitative research to develop and pre-test intervention materials for improvement of child health and nutrition. In coordination with WHO, the Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) approach has been introduced in Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Kiribati and Fiji to address the five major causes of childhood mortality and morbidity. Three countries have held national orientations and adapted the curriculum for training of facilitators, and are now ready to begin their provincial programmes.

9. Most Pacific island countries have made efforts to improve pre-school access and quality. UNICEF has supported policy and curriculum development and training, in cooperation with the University of the South Pacific and through direct support to individual country efforts. Models of high quality, culturally rich, low

cost pre-schools were developed through Government-NGO partnerships in Vanuatu and Solomon Islands. These community pre-schools have been replicated throughout both countries, although the political crisis has hindered progress in Solomon Islands. UNICEF has cooperated with other partners on Education for All (EFA) assessments and follow-up, and has supported regional initiatives to develop manuals and training for parent and community involvement in schools. Responding to a need throughout the Pacific for good examples of child-friendly schools, UNICEF has assisted Tafea Province in Vanuatu to develop such a model. The lessons learned will be shared in Vanuatu and with other Pacific island countries.

10. With coordination by the United Nations Inter-agency Task Force on Youth, UNICEF Pacific and its regional partners have helped to stimulate interest in adolescent and youth issues. A region-wide analysis entitled "The State of Pacific Youth" and four videos covering various youth-oriented topics have been produced. Four countries have recently carried out youth health and behaviour studies to help develop a life skills training curriculum. Three of these countries now have qualified trainers and have begun to train youth in the outer islands as well as in capitals.

11. There is an increasing focus on child protection in the Pacific region, with requests for UNICEF technical assistance and sharing of best practices from other parts of the world. In cooperation with the Regional Rights Resource Team and the Institute of Justice and Legal Studies, UNICEF has provided support to most Pacific island countries for legislative reviews, regional and country workshops, in-depth assessments, the development of resource materials and consultancy support.

12. Perhaps the clearest sign that the Convention on the Rights of the Child is making a difference is the increased participation of children in public forums, in the printed press, on radio and television, and in their communities. In some countries, children are included as members of NCCC. Both PIBA and the Pacific Islands News Association (PINA), as well as the Secretariat of the Pacific Community Media Unit, have been especially active in promoting child participation.

Lessons learned from past cooperation

13. In addition to the lessons described in the country note, a Fast-Track Evaluation, undertaken in early 2002 by UNICEF, with support from the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and Secretariat of the Pacific Community, provided additional guidance for the design of the new programme. In reviewing the UNICEF Pacific programme for 1997–2001, the evaluation team concluded that the programme was highly relevant in addressing major shortcomings in the fulfilment of children's rights, as identified in the situation analysis. It was also recognized that programme implementation must cope with an extraordinarily scattered geography, which poses major challenges in terms of transport and communication, high transaction costs, broad cultural diversity, and different levels of economic and social development among the Pacific island nations. In addition, the evaluation acknowledged that national human resources were thinly stretched, that there was high staff turnover, that there were insufficient recurrent budgets, and that there was a lack of appropriate policies and strategies to encourage adequate community participation. These factors all affect the potential

sustainability and replicability of UNICEF-supported initiatives and need to be carefully considered in the design of the new country programme.

14. The evaluation's specific recommendations relate to three levels:

(a) At the national level, strengthen the ownership of programmes by Governments and NGOs as well as the NCCCs, strengthen UNICEF field presence in priority countries, and build or strengthen strategic alliances and partnerships;

(b) At the regional level, cooperate more closely with regional institutions to increase the availability and quality of relevant data, monitor the situation of children, strengthen human resources capacity and promote experience exchange among countries by all available means, including non-traditional communication technologies such as radio and web sites;

(c) At the programme level, design the programme around a set of realistic objectives formulated in terms of achievable outputs and outcomes. The relationship between advocacy and operational objectives should be clearly articulated, and identification of strategic partnerships and alliances should be undertaken, taking into account the comparative advantages of UNICEF to enhance efficiency and effective implementation.

15. Planning for the proposed programme has attempted to incorporate these recommendations. In fact, some of the evaluation's findings had emerged from the 1999 MTR, and remedial action is under way to address them. For example, the number of countries receiving intensive UNICEF support has been reduced to three, and the strengthening of staff presence in these countries is in progress. A logical framework approach has been employed in designing the new programme. An Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (IMEP) will be prepared, and the computerized DevInfo system for data storage, retrieval, analysis and presentation will be introduced as a major tool for performance monitoring and evaluation. A more regular and systematic process of consultation and coordination with stakeholders and key partners is built into the new programme. These, along with other steps described elsewhere in the present document, are expected to contribute to improved planning, implementation and monitoring for all aspects of the programme. At the same time, this process should promote a more uniform perception between UNICEF and its partners of the objectives and strategies of the programme and its various components, and a more realistic understanding of its possibilities and limitations.

Recommended programme cooperation, 2003-2007

Regular resources: $10,000,000

Other resources: $12,000,000

Recommended programme cooperation[a]

(In thousands of United States dollars)

	Regular resources	*Other resources*	*Total*
Rights advocacy and protection	1 793	2 000	3 793
Integrated early child health and development	2 250	3 000	5 250
Adolescent development	750	3 000	3 750
Integrated area-based programme	3 500	3 500	7 000
Planning, monitoring and evaluation	1 500	500	2 000
Cross-sectoral costs	207	-	207
Total	**10 000**	**12 000**	**22 000**

[a] The breakdown for estimated yearly expenditures is given in table 2.

Multi-country programme preparation process

16. The development of the new programme of cooperation began in 1999 with nine in-country MTRs with Governments and NGOs, followed by a Pacific regional MTR with the participation of Governments of all 13 Pacific island countries, donors, regional bodies, NGOs and United Nations agencies. In late 2000, UNICEF commissioned a Pacific-wide situation analysis of major issues and trends affecting children. In 2001, a stakeholder analysis identified donor and agency support to social sectors in each Pacific island country. This helped to analyse the strategic role of UNICEF and highlighted areas needing improved coordination. A series of strategy meetings followed, involving national counterparts, donor agencies, regional institutions and UNICEF staff, to determine the optimal role of UNICEF in the Pacific region, taking into account the findings of the stakeholder analysis, the situation analysis, individual studies and evaluations, and the MTRs. The strategy meetings also considered the priorities in the UNICEF medium-term strategic plan (MTSP). Following consultations with the UNICEF Regional Office, a strategy paper was finalized and a country note was submitted to the Executive Board in January 2002 (E/ICEF/2002/P/L.10). On the recommendation of the Executive Board, a joint evaluation of the 1997-2001 programme of cooperation was carried out with regional partners. The findings are incorporated into this programme recommendation.

17. United Nations agencies based in Suva and Samoa have completed Common Country Assessments (CCAs) and United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) for the five LDCs. UNICEF was a partner in this process and has used the results to identify appropriate types and areas of assistance. To finalize programme design and develop the plans of operation, UNICEF is working with counterparts in each of the countries and with regional bodies, NGOs, donors

and United Nations agencies to identify country-specific needs and priorities and determine how best UNICEF can contribute. In March 2002, Nauru formally requested inclusion in the UNICEF Pacific regional programme, bringing to 14 the total number of participating countries.

Multi-country programme goals and objectives

18. The goal of the programme is to work with Pacific regional and country partners to ensure a better outcome for Pacific island children as reflected in improved child-related policies and legislation and greater access to quality services. The programme's primary objectives are to contribute to: (a) the institutionalization of the principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; (b) improving the health and development of children under six years of age; (c) building the resilience of adolescents to successfully meet the challenges of life; and (d) ensuring that children participate more fully in society and are protected from abuse and discrimination.

19. The overall Pacific regional programme has four components. In close cooperation with regional and country partners, the rights advocacy and protection programme will help to strengthen understanding of the two Conventions and promote advocacy, leadership and protection for all children. The integrated early child health and development programme will support the development of comprehensive policies to ensure the survival, growth and development of children; assist in enabling health systems to provide high immunization coverage in all health districts; contribute to improving infant and child feeding practices; and enhance the ability of countries to reduce micronutrient deficiencies. The objective of the adolescent development programme is to ensure that 70 per cent of young people between 15 and 18 years of age have access to information, education and services necessary to develop the skills required to make responsible decisions in life and to reduce vulnerability to HIV infection. This programme will also assist countries in preventing parent-to-child transmission and enhancing the protection available to children orphaned or made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS. The planning, monitoring and evaluation programme will work with regional and United Nations partners to build country capacity for the collection, analysis, and use of data and information on the situation of children and women, responding to a recommendation of the 1999 MTR and reinforced by the 2002 evaluation. Better data collection and analysis will strengthen programme planning and monitoring, and enhance the quality of reporting on implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

20. In addition to the regional objectives, the three priority countries will be assisted to reach additional national objectives for young children with support for the formulation of comprehensive ECD strategies, focusing on children below three years of age. These approaches will be community-based, focusing on the prevention and appropriate treatment of childhood diseases and improvement in maternal and perinatal health care. In Vanuatu and Solomon Islands, the programme will also support the EFA basic education goals for girls' education, including increased school attendance and completion, improved educational quality in primary schools and increased school readiness of children.

Relation to national and international priorities

21. The proposed multi-country programme for 2003–2007 addresses priorities incorporated in national development plans, National Plans of Action for Children and end-decade reviews. Programme activities also support action on issues raised by countries themselves in their initial and interim reports on implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child or in the Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child. Programme priorities are consistent with the goals of the UNDAFs developed for Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Kiribati, Tuvalu and Samoa, which emphasize good governance, human rights, equal access to quality services and the special vulnerabilities of island nations. Each UNDAF includes the cross-cutting themes of gender equality and HIV/AIDS. For Solomon Islands, peace and security is an overarching theme.

22. The programme is in accordance with the international priorities set at the World Summit for Children and since reiterated in other international forums, including the recent United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Children. The vision of "A World Fit for Children" and the goals specified in the Millennium Summit Declaration will be supported through this multi-country programme. The framework for assistance is the Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which 13 Pacific island countries are a party (the exception is Tokelau), and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, which many Pacific island countries have ratified.

Multi-country programme strategy

23. The multi-country programme strategy remains essentially the same as described in the country note, with the addition of Nauru, bringing the number of assisted Pacific island countries to 14. The programme incorporates a child rights perspective, using the life cycle approach, and will promote sustainable development and the realization of human rights, including gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. Major strategies will include advocacy to internalize the principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, capacity-building for regional organizations and country counterparts to better monitor the situation of children, and policy and programme development to ensure that all children have access to quality services and are protected from violence and abuse.

24. The programme will take a two-tier approach, with general support in 11 countries and more detailed and concentrated assistance, supported by a stronger UNICEF presence, in the three priority countries of Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Kiribati. These three countries have LDC status, score low in many child welfare indicators and have relatively large child populations. They will receive intensive support to reach goals set at the World Summit for Children and other global conferences as well as individual country priorities. An integrated approach to ECD, as described in the MTSP, will be central to this intensive additional support.

25. UNICEF cooperation with all 14 countries will focus on assisting them to further realize the rights of their children by strengthening the understanding and capacity of national partners with regard to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In addition, limited but strategic support will be offered to the better resourced countries, focusing on those areas where UNICEF has particular

expertise. Wherever possible, UNICEF will mobilize the expertise and resources of regional organizations and NGOs to provide the necessary technical assistance and oversight. A key counterpart in most countries will continue to be the NCCC.

26. The priority groups for assistance will be those in the earliest years of life and adolescents. HIV/AIDS prevention will be supported through all UNICEF programmes, in collaboration with United Nations partners through the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, NGOs, regional organizations and communities. Communication, monitoring and evaluation will be common to all programmes.

27. **Rights advocacy and protection**. This programme will be the main focus of UNICEF cooperation in all 14 Pacific island countries to improve monitoring and reporting on implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. This will be accomplished by working with regional and national partners to build the capacity of 13 NCCCs, the provincial or state committees, and local NGOs through training, improved communication and information access, and increased exchange of ideas among countries and institutions. Technical assistance will be provided for law reform and the development of communication approaches. It will also build wider partnerships with regional and country institutions and community-based organizations (CBOs) such as church and youth groups. Current partnerships with the Institute of Justice and Legal Studies, the Regional Rights Resource Team, the Law Faculty of the University of the South Pacific and Pacific-based social justice research and advocacy groups will be strengthened. Partnerships with the private sector will also be explored as a potential source of additional resources for children. UNICEF will advocate with Tokelau for ratification of the Convention.

28. Information and communication strategies will forge greater awareness of children's and women's rights. Resource centres with the latest data, research findings and documentation of "best practices" related to Pacific island children will be established. These centres of excellence will be based in regional institutions and linked to web sites within and outside the region. Topical country-specific situation analyses will be used to deepen understanding of the welfare and rights status of children and women. UNICEF will work closely with Pacific regional media partners, PINA and PIBA, as well as with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and the University of the South Pacific, to improve the relevance and quality of information concerning children's issues. In addition, UNICEF will work with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community to support national broadcasters and media-based NGOs to create more radio and television programming for children in local languages and with more local content.

29. UNICEF will continue working with Pacific partners to build capacity for communication research and production that can help bring about behaviour change. These skills will be utilized for a wide variety of social issues, including radio and video productions on *Facts for Life*, video dramas with social messages, audio tapes on child-care practices, and television spots on adolescent health and HIV/AIDS. These efforts will be linked, whenever possible, to improving interpersonal communication skills for health staff and field workers of CBOs.

30. UNICEF cooperation will contribute to the development of policies, legislation and good practices related to common regional concerns such as child abuse, juvenile justice and children with disabilities. To the extent possible, UNICEF will also provide technical support or links to best practices for individual country concerns such as adoption or birth registration. In the past, UNICEF support for

networking, training, technical assistance and the provision of resource materials has produced concrete improvements in child protection. One example is the way in which policies and practices for dealing with children who come into conflict with the law have been improved in several countries.

31. **Integrated early child health and development**. This programme will focus on the unfinished business that denies too many children in Pacific island countries a good start in life. Countries will be assisted to meet their national objectives for eliminating micronutrient deficiencies, raising immunization rates to 90 per cent or more in all communities, reducing child malnutrition through improved child feeding practices, and improving community and home practices to ensure proper early child growth and development. The programme will work to increase the number of countries with comprehensive ECD policies, and support for comprehensive integrated approaches will be modelled in the three priority countries. In coordination with WHO, all 14 countries will be covered by the Pacific-wide immunization project in which UNICEF provides assistance with training, cold-chain improvements and social mobilization. Thirteen countries now procure vaccines through the Vaccine Independence Initiative mechanism. UNICEF support for the implementation of the IMCI strategy will continue in Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Kiribati and Fiji, with possible extension to other Pacific island countries depending on resource availability. A major focus in IMCI will be on improving key practices related to child health and child care through community-based activities. Experience with the ongoing infant and child feeding project will provide the basis for the community component of IMCI. Work in the area of micronutrients, breastfeeding promotion and BFHI will also continue by providing policy and technical support in all 14 Pacific island countries. The capacity of regional partners such as the Fiji School of Medicine and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, together with some national institutions with the potential to provide assistance beyond their countries (such as the Fiji Health Promotion Centre), will be strengthened.

32. In the three priority countries, UNICEF will support the development of integrated ECD models capable of wide replication. Depending on the country, these models will be based on either the IMCI approach or national pre-school programmes involving community resources such as religious and welfare groups and village volunteers. UNICEF assistance can be used to provide a national or regional model of good practice regarding child-friendly schools, as currently in operation in Vanuatu. UNICEF has much to offer in terms of international experience in basic education, and the region is looking at a number of major initiatives that could benefit from this expertise. With additional resources, UNICEF will use its expertise to help strengthen regional partners, such as the Institute of Education at the University of the South Pacific, as well as contribute to national dialogue and programme development, especially in the three priority countries.

33. **Adolescent development**. This programme builds on the success of the current life skills project which involves young people in life skills research, training, development of culturally and linguistically appropriate communication approaches, and strengthening of youth networks. The programme is now operational in four countries (Vanuatu, Tonga, Fiji and Federated States of Micronesia). If additional resources become available, the programme will support similar initiatives in other countries. In-country partners are national youth councils, departments of youth and active youth NGOs. Regional partnerships have been

established with the Commonwealth Youth Programme, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, the Peace Corps, the United Nations Population Fund and WHO. Coordination is facilitated through the regional United Nations inter-agency task forces on youth and HIV/AIDS. This programme aims to build resiliency in adolescents by enhancing the protective factors in their lives while reducing the risk factors. The life skills training, communication initiatives and measures to prevent parent-to-child transmission will be the major contributions to reducing the spread of HIV.

34. **Integrated area-based programme**. Through this programme, the three priority countries will receive additional support to reach unreached goals for child health and education. As mentioned above, in Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Kiribati, the programme will support the development of comprehensive early child care approaches, using a multisectoral approach employed in ongoing country activities. In Solomon Islands, the community pre-school programme, which suffered setbacks in the recent political crisis, will be revived, and links with the province-based nutrition promotion and IMCI programmes will be strengthened.

35. In Vanuatu, the rural sanitation project provides a community base for this new approach, along with newly-developed skills in IMCI. Research on home and community practices is under way with the existing infant and young child feeding project. Kiribati will explore the potential of village welfare groups and women's community groups to improve the situation of mothers who give birth without assistance from a trained health worker. National and regional NGOs will support the integrated approach, with technical assistance from UNICEF, WHO and regional institutions. Additional resources will be sought for research, technical assistance and regional networking. In Vanuatu and Solomon Islands, where access to and the quality of education are inadequate and where there are signs of significant gender disparity, UNICEF will work with other partners to increase school readiness and improve access and quality by developing replicable models of child-friendly schools. The first initiative is already being implemented in Tafea Province of Vanuatu, with funding from the Parthenon Trust. The experience of these countries will be shared through Pacific regional forums and workshops.

36. In addition, the integrated area-based programme will provide direct support for multisectoral work such as social planning and monitoring. The programme will also contribute small amounts of resources for country-specific needs, such as the peace education youth project in Solomon Islands. If necessary, this programme will be able to make adjustments for emergency response.

37. **Planning, monitoring and evaluation**. This programme will allocate resources to assess progress in the situation of children and women according to country priorities and international targets set in the United Nations Millennium Development goals and reflected in the UNICEF MTSP. UNICEF will cooperate with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and other United Nations agencies in improving the quality, availability and timeliness of data on children through surveys, rapid assessments and special studies. The DevInfo system, a software package for archiving, accessing, mapping and analysing quantitative data, will be used to support and assist Governments and their partners, including UNICEF and donor agencies, to make better use of available information for policy formulation, programme design and monitoring. At the regional level, DevInfo will be used to

highlight region-wide issues and support comparative analysis across the Pacific island countries.

38. **Cross-sectoral costs**. These include the salaries of staff supporting the entire programme.

Monitoring and evaluation

39. An IMEP will provide a results framework and a scheduling tool for planning and coordinating monitoring and evaluation activities for all aspects of the UNICEF multi-country programme. The IMEP will specify indicators for monitoring inputs, outputs and outcomes, and for assessing progress towards programme and project objectives. A major challenge in IMEP development will be to identify appropriate, measurable indicators of outcome or impact, which are essential for results-based programming. Monitoring and evaluation outcomes based on the IMEP will provide major inputs into annual in-country reviews, to be held in each of the priority countries, and the MTR covering all 14 Pacific island countries to be carried out in 2005.

40. A number of thematic studies and evaluations are also planned, including research on micronutrient deficiencies and current child care practices. Evaluations of life skills training for adolescents and the Tafea Province child-friendly schools project will be carried out to help decide on the future direction and possible expansion.

Collaboration with partners

41. The multi-country programme will collaborate in each of the 14 Pacific island countries through the ministries of foreign affairs and with other ministries responsible for health, education, justice, social welfare and youth, as appropriate. In individual countries, a sense of national ownership will be strengthened through close consultation at all stages of programme development with Governments, NGOs, communities, families and children themselves, wherever possible. The NCCCs can play an important role in identifying specific child rights issues and mobilizing local, decentralized action to redress any shortcomings. At the Pacific regional level, the programme will be implemented in close coordination with those organizations with a Pacific-wide mandate, including donors and United Nations agencies. This will be particularly relevant for rights advocacy and issues related to protection, capacity development, monitoring and evaluation. Greater involvement of regional organizations in an alliance for children could create considerable synergy and efficiency for the ultimate benefit of children.

42. For child protection initiatives, regional partners will include the Regional Rights Resource Team, the Institute of Justice and Applied Legal Studies, the AusAID child protection project and the Fiji Women's Crisis Center. Also at regional level, UNICEF will continue to work with media partners such as PINA, PIBA and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, whose role is not only to put children's issues on the regional agenda, but also to help build the capacity of country counterparts. In some countries, there are also very capable NGO partners which will be encouraged to share their media expertise with others in the region. Partnership with University of the South Pacific will allow access to its excellent

extension and technology network to bring essential information to local development partners.

43. Completed CCAs and UNDAFs provide a framework for the programme in the priority countries as well as in Samoa and Tuvalu. Inter-agency task forces on youth, HIV/AIDS and gender, and the recent joint initiatives on data collection and analysis, provide additional avenues for coordination and collaboration. The collaboration with WHO on immunization and IMCI will continue in the new programme. UNICEF will dialogue with all stakeholders on a regular basis to ensure complementarity and coordination and to facilitate resource mobilization.

Programme management

44. The programme will use a results-based management approach that starts with end-of-year consultations with stakeholders, followed by the UNICEF annual staff retreat to set office-wide priorities as a basis for annual programme plans and updating IMEPs. To monitor progress during the year and allow for timely adjustments, quarterly programme implementation reviews will also be held. These reviews will facilitate a timely response to opportunities and constraints as they arise, and allow for appropriate adjustments in resource allocation.

45. At least once a year a review and planning exercise will take place in each of the priority countries, involving counterparts, donors and other agencies. Implementation of the Pacific regional programmes will be reviewed at an MTR in 2005 with all major partners. Specific donor-funded projects will be reviewed with counterparts and donors in light of the specific project plans and donor agreements. The UNICEF office management team will continue to advise on programme management and operations processes, as well as review the effectiveness of the statutory office committees. Financial report applications such as ProMS (Programme Manager System) and Cognos will be used to monitor allocations and utilization.

46. The four Pacific regional programmes will be managed from the UNICEF Pacific Area Office in Suva, which will oversee work in both the three priority countries and the 11 additional countries. For each of the three priority countries, a UNICEF sub-office has been established and will be staffed by a UNICEF manager and an operations assistant. These sub-offices will report to the Suva area office, which will also provide technical and operational support. Whenever possible, the in-country offices use United Nations common premises and services.

47. UNICEF regular resources will provide support for advocacy, for much of the technical support by UNICEF staff and for "seed money" for new initiatives. Donor support will be sought for research and information systems, innovative communication programmes, additional technical support and expansion of successful initiatives. The UNICEF office will develop a fund-raising strategy for the new programme. With an enhanced presence in the priority countries and a strengthened technical team in Suva, UNICEF will be better placed to respond to the needs of regional organizations and partners in the assisted countries, but this response will be based on the core mandate of UNICEF and the availability of resources. Additional funds will be sought for the development of integrated child development activities in the three priority countries and for the expansion of adolescent life skills and HIV/AIDS prevention activities in at least eight Pacific

island countries. Other resources will be sought to increase capacity-building in the field of child protection, especially for juvenile justice. Project funding will be sought for improving access to and the quality of education in Vanuatu and Solomon Islands. Working together with United Nations agencies and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, UNICEF will seek support to assist countries to carry out multi-indicator surveys and topical studies to improve their understanding of children's issues and their capacity to monitor change.

TABLE 1. EXPENDITURE UNDER PREVIOUS COOPERATION PERIOD, 1997-2002 a/

COUNTRY: PACIFIC ISLANDS
LATEST BOARD APPROVAL: 1996
REGULAR RESOURCES: $ 9,100,000

(In thousands of United States dollars)

Programme sectors/areas	TOTAL					
	Regular resources		Other resources		Total (RR & OR)	
	Actual	Planned c/	Actual	Planned c/	Actual	Planned c/
Health and nutrition	983	964	2,195	4,785	3,178	5,749
Education	378	536	74	4,315	452	4,851
Child and youth advocacy	641	627	1,014	3,154	1,655	3,781
Monitoring	292	259		1,521	292	1,780
Integrated area-based programme	2,919	4,248	625	3,025	3,544	7,273
Cross-sectoral costs	1,462	2,466	77	-	1,539	2,466
GRAND TOTAL	**6,675**	**9,100**	**3,985**	**16,800**	**10,660**	**25,900**

RR = Regular resources.
OR = Other resources.
a/ = Actual expenditure includes expenditure recorded as at closure 31 May 2002.
b/ = Actual RR expenditure includes allocations from global set-aside.
c/ = Includes $4,800,000 (E/ICEF/2001/P/L.65) for 2002 short-duration programme.

TABLE 2

PLANNED YEARLY EXPENDITURES

COUNTRY: PACIFIC OFFICE, SUVA
PROGRAMME CYCLE : 2003-2007

	FUND	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	TOTAL
RIGHTS ADVOCACY AND PROTECTION	RR	358,600	358,600	358,600	358,600	358,600	1,793,000
	OR	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	2,000,000
	TOTAL	758,600	758,600	758,600	758,600	758,600	3,793,000
INTEGRATED CHILD HEALTH AND DEVELOP	RR	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	2,250,000
	OR	600,000	600,000	600,000	600,000	600,000	3,000,000
	TOTAL	1,050,000	1,050,000	1,050,000	1,050,000	1,050,000	5,250,000
ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT	RR	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	750,000
	OR	600,000	600,000	600,000	600,000	600,000	3,000,000
	TOTAL	750,000	750,000	750,000	750,000	750,000	3,750,000
PLANNING, MONITORING AND EVALUATION	RR	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	1,500,000
	OR	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	500,000
	TOTAL	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	2,000,000
INTEGRATED AREA-BASED PROGRAMM	RR	700,000	700,000	700,000	700,000	700,000	3,500,000
	OR	700,000	700,000	700,000	700,000	700,000	3,500,000
	TOTAL	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	7,000,000
CROSS-SECTORAL COSTS	RR	41,400	41,400	41,400	41,400	41,400	207,000
	OR						
	TOTAL	41,400	41,400	41,400	41,400	41,400	207,000
TOTAL, PROGRAMME BUDGET	RR	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	10,000,000
	OR	2,400,000	2,400,000	2,400,000	2,400,000	2,400,000	12,000,000
	TOTAL	4,400,000	4,400,000	4,400,000	4,400,000	4,400,000	22,000,000
STAFF COSTS a/		401,819	417,979	431,988	446,077	460,398	2,158,261
GENERAL OPERATING COSTS		182,972	202,701	176,122	185,642	185,101	932,538
TOTAL, ESTIMATE SUPPORT BUDGET		584,791	620,680	608,110	631,719	645,499	3,090,799
GRAND TOTAL		4,984,791	5,020,680	5,008,110	5,031,719	5,045,499	25,090,799

RR = regular resources
OR = other resources

a/ Including consultants and temporary assistance.

E/ICEF/2002/P/L.10/Add.1

TABLE 3
LINKAGE OF PROGRAMME BUDGET AND STAFFING/STAFF COSTS

COUNTRY : PACIFIC OFFICE, SUVA
PROGRAMME:2003-2007

PROGRAMME SECTION/AREAS AND FUNDING SOURCE	PROGRAMME BUDGET			POSTS a/										STAFF COSTS b/		
	RR	OR	TOTAL	D2/L7	D1/L6	P/L5	P/L4	P/L3	P/L2	IP	NP	GS	TOTAL	IP	LOCAL	TOTAL
REGULAR RESOURCES :																
RIGHTS ADVOCACY AND PROTECTION	1,793,000		1,793,000	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	3	865,006	202,957	1,067,963
INTEGRATED CHILD HEALTH AND DE	2,250,000		2,250,000	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	1	4	865,006	397,179	1,262,185
ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT	750,000		750,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PLANNING, MONITORING AND EVALU	1,500,000		1,500,000	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	3	865,006	214,962	1,079,968
INTEGRATED AREA-BASED PROGRAMM	3,500,000		3,500,000	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	3	6	1,853,993	173,202	2,027,195
CROSS-SECTORAL COSTS	207,000		207,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	200,061	200,061
TOTAL RR	10,000,000		10,000,000	0	0	0	3	3	0	6	4	9	19	4,449,011	1,188,361	5,637,372
OTHER RESOURCES :																
RIGHTS ADVOCACY AND PROTECTION		2,000,000	2,000,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	138,515	138,515
INTEGRATED CHILD HE' .TH AND DE		3,000,000	3,000,000	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	865,006	0	865,006
ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT		3,000,000	3,000,000	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	3	657,621	202,957	860,578
PLANNING, MONITORING AND EVALU		500,000	500,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
INTEGRATED AREA-BASED PROGRAMM		3,500,000	3,500,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OR		12,000,000	12,000,000	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	2	1	5	1,522,627	341,472	1,864,099
TOTAL RR & OR	10,000,000	12,000,000	22,000,000	0	0	0	4	4	0	8	6	10	24	5,971,638	1,529,833	7,501,471
SUPPORT BUDGET	Operating costs		932,538													
	Staffing			0	0	1	0	1	0	2	1	5	8	1,636,388	521,873	2,158,261
GRAND TOTAL (RR + OR + SB)				0	0	1	4	5	0	10	7	15	32	7,608,026	2,051,706	9,659,732
Number of posts and staff costs:																
Current programme cycle										5	1	8	14			
At the end of proposed programme cycle (indicative only)										10	7	15	32	7,608,026	2,051,706	9,659,732

RR = regular resources.
OR = other resources.
IP = international Professional.
NP = national Professional.
GS = General Service.
SB = support budget.

a/ Each post, regardless of its funding source, supports the country programme as a whole.
b/ Excludes temporary assistance and overtime.